

City of Kent

Department of Economic and
Community Development

Update May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015

# FAA Regional HQ: Time to Pivot.



#### Sound Transit Link Light Rail

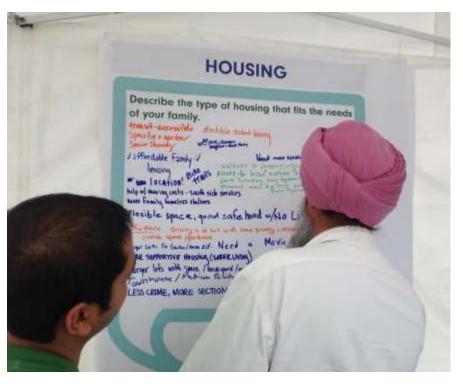


Angle Lake Station Under Construction.

- The EIS Comment Period ends
   May 26<sup>th</sup>
- Letter to Sound Transit from Mayor and Council President on preferred alignment that supports Envision Midway Plan.
- Preferred: I-5 Alignment with Station in Kent on the Westside of 30<sup>th</sup> Ave S. Connecting to Highline College by Pedestrian Bridge

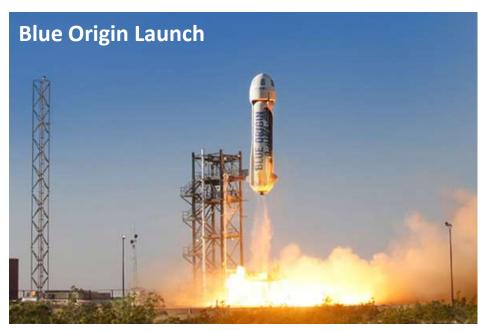
#### Comprehensive Plan Update





- Update Incorporates City Council's Strategic Goals
  - Emphasis on Vibrant Places
  - Requires Capital Funding for Growth
- May 11<sup>th</sup>: Second Public Hearing to the Land Use and Planning Board
- Recommendations Will Be Made to City Council in June
  - City's Goals and Policies
  - Map Amendments Generally Support More Mixed-Uses

#### Kent Valley: Innovation Buzz





**Blue Origin**: Surprise rocket launch April 29<sup>th</sup>; a Kent company now with 500+ employees. International news.

**AUVSI Conference in Kent**: Garnered coverage in Kent Reporter and in Sunday Seattle Times. Attracted 150 technologists, industry members, and researchers.

Green River College with the City of Kent, University of Washington, state Department of Commerce, and industry meeting on creation of **UAV education and product prototyping facility**.

Green River College will stage **software** and IT "meetups", where students, entrepreneurs and tech companies will mix and network on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

# Congratulations: Seattle Magazine Manufacturing Award Winners



Breedt Production Tooling & Design: Most Innovative Small-Sized Manufacturer 2015



Omax: Mid-Size Manufacturing Firm of 2015

Two highly sophisticated, innovative makers of industrial machines and custom tools

#### Congratulations!

Our "Excellence on Main Award" Winners Revitalize WA 2015: State Main Street Program Conference Bellingham on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 2015

Airways Beer & Bistro: Entrepreneur of the Year





Suzanne Cameron: Main Street Volunteer of the Year

### Downtown is Springing to Life





- Artistic energy in the historic downtown
- "Art Walk" and "Wine Walk" Bringing Feet and Eyes to Kent





- Energy is attracting renewed investment in the Post Office
- Owner working on concept with art, food, and beverages

#### **Business Coming to Kent Station**



Contemporary Mexican Restaurant

Opening in late May at Former Cal's space







Kent Station continues to anchor our emerging downtown core

## **Business Coming to Kent Valley**



MACRINA BAKERY Flagship Bakery Operation expanding from SoDo into Kent

Targeted Opening is March 2016

Discussing "Made in Back, Sell in Front" Concept and Retail/Cafe

Approximately 120 bakery and pastry jobs will come with it

Location: 19015 66th Ave S, Kent

# Questions?